

HONORING SUSAN B. ANTHONY

HON. BARBARA CUBIN

OF WYOMING

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 12, 1999

Mrs. CUBIN. Mr. Speaker, one hundred and seventy-nine years ago, on February 15, a remarkable woman was born. Her passion for establishing equal rights for women led her to champion the rights of others dispossessed as well.

That woman is Susan B. Anthony. Today she is mainly, and rightly, remembered as one of our greatest foremothers in the drive for women's rights. And this drive for women's rights led her to champion the rights of others as well. Anthony was a fierce opponent of slavery. And she also championed the rights of those who today have become the most dispossessed of all: the unborn. Although she herself was childless, she considered amongst her greatest achievements, to have saved the lives of the unborn. She said, "... Sweeter even than to have had the joy of caring for children of my own has it been to me to help bring about a better state of things for mothers generally, so that their unborn little ones could not be willed away from them."

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that we take the anniversary of her birth as an opportunity to remember this great woman, Susan B. Anthony, and to rededicate ourselves to her life's work of guaranteeing full rights for both women and their unborn children.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM F. BOWEN,
A GREAT LIVING CINCINNATIAN

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 12, 1999

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William F. Bowen, an outstanding individual who will be honored as a Great Living Cincinnati on February 19, 1999 by the Greater Cincinnati Chamber of Commerce. He was selected based on his exemplary community service, business and civic accomplishments, and achievements that have brought favorable attention to the Cincinnati area. Bill has enriched the lives of all Greater Cincinnatians through his dedication, leadership and love for our community.

William Bowen, the eldest of seven children, was born before the American civil rights movement. He likes to tell people, "I spent my time fighting the battles; I worked full time at fighting for civil rights." His long history in the civil rights movement includes the presidency of the Cincinnati Branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

Bill grew up in Cincinnati's West End, graduated from Woodward High School and studied business administration at Xavier University. His career as a legislator began when he was elected to the Ohio House of Representatives in 1966. During his tenure, he served as House Minority Whip. In 1970, Bill was appointed to the Ohio Ninth Senatorial District

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

seat. He was elected to the seat later that year and reelected in 1974, 1978, 1982, 1986 and 1990.

He is known for his commitment and for being a good friend to his hometown. All of us in Cincinnati are grateful for his leadership and service to our community.

EXTENSION OF THE RESEARCH
AND DEVELOPMENT TAX CREDIT:
H.R. 760**HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 12, 1999

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced a bill to permanently extend the Research and Development Tax Credit.

A permanent extension of the R&D Tax Credit is necessary to assuring those who conduct long-term research and development that the federal government values their efforts and will continue to provide support for the type of research that is the foundation of our economic prosperity. Failure to permanently extend the credit has created uncertainty in the research community. This uncertainty has created a disincentive for private industry to conduct long-term research projects to the detriment of our national welfare.

We must find ways to leverage our Nation's resources to support Research and Development. Even with a \$70 billion federal budget surplus, the Administration indicates that discretionary spending for science research and development programs will not be increased. As federal discretionary spending for R&D is squeezed, incentives must be used to maintain America's investment in private sector innovation so that we can maintain our global leadership in high-technology, high-growth industries that help to keep our economy the strongest in the world.

Congress realizing the need for such a credit, has extended the R&D tax credit eight times over a period of 17 years. It is clear that the repeated extensions demonstrate Congressional support. However, it has become apparent in recent years that this approach does not allow for industry to plan their R&D in ways that increase the level, and efficiency of research spending.

There is clear bipartisan support for permanent extension of the R&D Tax Credit and I urge my colleagues to support this important piece of legislation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 12, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 16, Waxman amendment to H.R. 350, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

February 12, 1999

BENJAMIN WOMICK—NATIONAL
VOLUNTEER AWARD RECIPIENT**HON. JIM DeMINT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 12, 1999

Mr. DeMINT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor a young South Carolinian from my district who has achieved national recognition for exemplary volunteer service in his community. Benjamin Womick of Spartanburg has just been named one of my state's top honorees in The 1999 Prudential Spirit of Community Awards program, an annual honor conferred on the most impressive student volunteers in the nation.

Ben, a senior at Daniel Morgan Vocational Center, is the youngest commissioned state fire marshal in South Carolina history. He has helped to save three houses from destruction, aided in medical assistance calls, and helped many people injured in accidents as a firefighter with a volunteer fire department. Since joining the department at age 17, he has dedicated an average of 2 hours a day to his responsibilities, recruited five friends to become firefighters, and signed up for nearly 350 hours of training.

In light of numerous statistics that indicate Americans today are less involved in their communities than they once were, I believe it's vital that we encourage and support the kind of selfless contribution this young citizen has made. People of all ages need to think more about how we, as individual citizens, can work together at the local level to ensure the health and vitality of our towns and neighborhoods. Young volunteers like Ben are inspiring examples to all of us, and are among our brightest hope for a better tomorrow.

The program that brought this young role model to our attention—The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards—was created by The Prudential Insurance Corporation of America in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals in 1995 to impress upon all youth volunteers that their contributions are critically important and highly valued, and to inspire other young people to follow their example. In only 4 years, the program has become the nation's largest youth recognition effort based solely on community service, with more than 50,000 youngsters participating.

Ben should be extremely proud to have been singled out from such a large group of dedicated volunteers. I heartily applaud Ben for his initiative in seeking to make his community a better place to live, and for the positive impact he has had on the lives of others. He has demonstrated a level of commitment and accomplishment that is truly extraordinary in today's world, and deserves our sincere admiration and respect. His actions show that young Americans can—and do—play important roles in our communities, and that America's community spirit continues to hold tremendous promise for the future.

ECUADOR TRIP REPORT

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 12, 1999

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I want to share with my colleagues a report on my recent trip to Ecuador. I traveled to that South American country January 9–15. I spent two days in the rain forest, one day traveling in country, and two days in Quito, the capital. With the spread of populations and industry into the Amazon Basin, tribal groups are having to come to grips with the realities of 21st century life and I was asked to visit in order to better understand those challenges.

The world was stunned 43 years ago, in January of 1956, when the speared bodies of five young men, Jim Elliot, Pete Fleming, Ed McCully, Nate Saint and Roger Youderian, were discovered in the Curaray River of southeastern Ecuador. These were evangelical missionaries from three different missions, who, in their attempt to make meaningful contact with the Auca tribe, had been murdered. Aucas (the Spanish word for “savage”) had a long history of killing outsiders, friendly or not. In their desire to make contact, these young men—from age 28 to 32—had known the risk. The response to their deaths was broad and immediate, as other young men and women followed in their steps, led by a wife and a sister of two of the men who had died. As a result of the continued contacts, most of the tribal members stopped their killing within two years of that incident, and for the most part they have lived peacefully since.

A few months ago, however, the son of one of the original five men, Steve Saint, contacted my office regarding some of his humanitarian concerns for the people in this tribe, now called in their native language, the Huaorani. As a result, I journeyed with a friend to the Ecuadorian rain forest and also Quito, the capital, between Saturday, January 9, and Friday, January 15, for the purpose of meeting the people, becoming acquainted with the region, and assessing whether I could be of any assistance by understanding the particulars of their situation.

The challenges of tribal life in the Amazon Basin, particularly with the inroads of industry, are not small and have been well documented by sociologists, anthropologists, and others. This huge area of rain forest, which is home to as few as 175,000 people in various tribal groups scattered throughout it, has received much attention from the scientific, industrial and religious communities.

Upon arrival at Quito airport Saturday evening, we were met by Peter Harding, political officer at our embassy, and Alicia Duran-Ballen, daughter of a former president of Ecuador. She acted as host and interpreter for us while we were in Quito. We left the next morning early by private plane for Nemompade, a very small village in the Amazon Basin, 150 miles southeast of Quito, a few miles from the site on the Curaray where the young men had been killed. We were met there by Steve Saint and spent the next two days and nights with the Huaorani learning how they lived, being shown their ways, and

talking with them about their concerns for the future.

Generally, we observed their way of life, their culture and their interactions with each other and learned what it is like to live on a day to day basis in the rain forest. A group of high school students from Wheaton Academy, a private school in the Chicago suburbs, were there at the same time.

The challenges facing the Huaorani are not on the same order as other groups which I have visited and for which I have expressed great concern previously. However, they are faced with learning to live interactively with hi-tech civilization in the coming years, and learning to do so while maintaining their own identity. Historically, they have been a highly egalitarian group, without much vertical social order. That has been moderated some in the last 40 years to include community elders, who help guide life in the tribe. They have also become somewhat less nomadic in recent years.

Government requirements for personal registration, voting at designated venues which may be several days away by jungle trail, and other things necessary to interact with the national culture are matters which are currently under discussion with the Ministry of Government in Quito, and more specifically the Office for Indigenous Affairs. As hunter-gatherers in the rain forest, the national language, use of money, and means of transportation all critical to engagement with the outside world are foreign to the Huaorani and all need to be addressed. Additionally, the request for a radio frequency from the government by which to communicate and educate within the tribal region was in process.

Steve Saint's approach has been to understand that the people in this region will continue to interact more and more with interests outside their local environment. The question is not “When will this process happen?”, but “with whom and can they survive it as a tribal group?” The people feel that they need to learn to be both independent and interdependent within the national culture, avoiding the pitfalls of becoming welfare recipients. To assist then in that journey, he has invited groups—such as the Wheaton Academy students—to visit for a few days in the rain forest at a neutral site constructed like a village, not an actual settlement. In that manner, the visitors can interact with the Huaorani without interrupting village life. Each person pays a fee and the profits are put into an account in the nearest large town in the names of the village elders. In that way, the Indians are creating a productive economy which they can control.

Additionally, health-care skills are being practiced to improve their health without having to journey outside their territory. A simple, but ingenious, form of dentistry is in place so that they can fill teeth, again without journeying long distances. Although sickness does not seem to be prevalent, except diseases that might be “brought” from the outside, the Huaorani do have significant problems with decaying teeth. Much of this malady, apparently, stems from their eating staple—manioc roots. Manioc is a starch that converts to sugar readily, hence, tooth problems abound. I use this illustration only to highlight the fact that every effort is being made to help them

be self-sufficient on their own terms and with their own resources.

Transportation is another significant factor as relates to commerce and healthcare. Although rivers abound in the rainforest, in this area their serpentine characteristic prohibits speed in travel. We traveled 40 minutes by dugout canoe and ended up 100 yards from where we began. The rule of thumb is “one minute in the air is two hours on a jungle trail.” Therefore, an attempt is being made to procure an accommodation in the regulations to allow for a plane in the tribe and a “designated pilot.”

When we returned to Quito, we were able to spend time with our ambassador, Leslie Alexander, and his colleague, Peter Harding. We discussed the nature of our visit and other topics of mutual concern and interest. The following day we visited the persons responsible for the Office of Indigenous Affairs and articulated why we had come to Ecuador and what we had seen. They were grateful for the interest and assured us that they would marshal whatever resources at their disposal to address the issues raised.

We then had the opportunity for a good discussion with the president of Ecuador, Jamil Mahuad, joined by Ambassador Alexander. Not only were we able to discuss the situation of the Huaorani, we were also able to invite the president to the National Prayer Breakfast, which he subsequently attended on February 4.

In the words of Steve Saint, what the Huaorani need are the following:

1. The right to vote and establish their citizenship within their own territory, which would include a place to register their birth, marriage and death, and to acquire the “cedulas” (identity cards) that are required of all citizens.

2. The right to develop their own means of disseminating information throughout their own territory, in their own language, without meeting stringent communication requirements that were established for densely populated territories. They need favorable concession in the acquisition or radio frequencies.

Although much of my interest has focused over the years on the violation of human rights around the world, it was encouraging to see a situation in which thoughtful assistance in a timely way could nurture self-determination and the democratic process. I am grateful for the efforts of our Foreign Service Corps in Ecuador for their skill and dedication in the public sector, as well as the work of private U.S. citizens in the humanitarian arena, which enhances the lives of peoples in both countries.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 12, 1999

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote No. 17 (H.R. 350), I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted “nay.”